



NRC NEWS

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NRC TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF SPECIAL INSPECTION AT DIABLO CANYON

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will meet with officials of Pacific Gas & Electric Co. on October 28 to discuss the results of a special inspection. The inspection was performed to evaluate the failure of battery chargers at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant, located near San Luis Obispo, California.

The meeting, which is open to public observation, will be held at the PG&E Community Center, 6588 Ontario Road, in San Luis Obispo at 1:00 p.m. The public is invited to observe the meeting and NRC staff will be available for comments or questions from the public before the meeting adjourns.

NRC decided to conduct a special inspection at the plant on August 11 after there were three battery charger failures at Unit 1 and three failures at Unit 2 during a 15-month period. The problem has been corrected.

The chargers provide DC power to various safety related and non-safety related systems and equipment throughout the plant. If the chargers are unavailable, batteries can supply DC power for up to eight hours.

The NRC's Special Inspection Team, consisting of a resident inspector and senior reactor engineer from the NRC's Region IV office in Arlington, Texas, evaluated the adequacy of the licensee's response to the battery charger failures, their root cause evaluation, and corrective actions.

The inspection report will be available 30 days after the meeting on the agency's web site and through its Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov> as an Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) document. Help in using ADAMS is available through the NRC Public Document Room at 301/415-4737 or 800/397-4209.

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